

## **Environmental Overview & Issues**

## **What is the National Environmental Policy Act?**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies, including the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service), to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that considers the following factors when a proposed project could result in significant effects:

- · Input from public, agency, tribal, and other affected parties
- A reasonable range of alternatives
- Environmental consequences, including direct, indirect and cumulative effects
- Social, economic and human health consequences
- Mitigation to reduce adverse impacts

The Service's EIS will consider all possible impacts resulting from issuance of an Incidental Take Permit for the Oil & Gas Multi-State Habitat Conservation Plan.

## What is Scoping?

Scoping provides members of the public, agencies, and other affected parties an opportunity to:

- Learn more about the project
- Provide comments on the project
- Identify issues to be analyzed in the EIS

You are encouraged to provide comments at this meeting or mail your comments prior to the close of the public comment period (December 27, 2016). Your comments will become part of the official public record and will be considered in the development of the EIS.



## What are Some of the Potential Environmental Issues?

- Water Quality (groundwater and surface water)
- Geology and Soils (including erosion, seismic)
- Wildlife (other non-covered species)
- Vegetation and Sensitive Habitat
- Cultural Resources
- Air Quality and Climate Change
- Visual Resources
- Public Health & Safety

